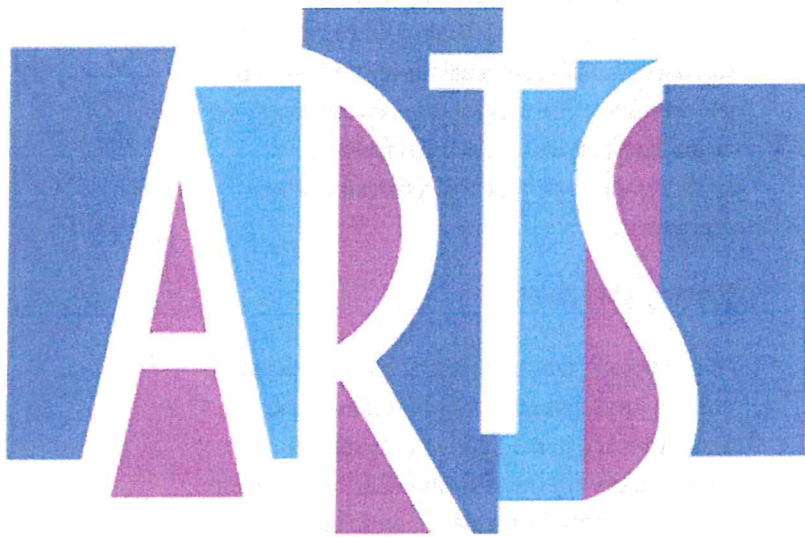




SPRINGFIELD AREA ARTS COUNCIL

WHO WE ARE

Staff:

Bella Szabo, *Executive Director*

Sheila Walk, *Education Director*

Sarah Burke, *Bookkeeper*

Emily Page, *Website & Social Media Manager*

Board of Directors:

Steve Rambach

Melinda Kaye

Douglas Holt

Al Shull

OUR MISSION

Enriching the community by promoting all art forms and providing creative opportunities to participate in and enjoy the arts.

OUR HISTORY

The Springfield Area Arts Council, formerly known as Springboard, was established in 1976 and serves the residents of Sangamon and Menard counties.

420 South 6th Street
Springfield, IL 62701

217.752.3519

director@springfieldartsco.org

www.springfieldartsco.org

Programs and Events

Art After Hours

A city-wide visual arts exhibit featuring artwork created by employees is held in collaboration with local businesses, educational and medical institutions, and state agencies. It is a biennial program.

Artist on the Plaza

An entertainment series featuring local performers. This outdoor, noon-hour, summertime program has been held for over thirty-five years.

Friday Night Jazz and Blues

The year-round jazz and blues live music series is held weekly, every Friday from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at Boone's. A 50/50 raffle is also hosted to benefit SAAC programming.

Levitt AMP Springfield

In partnership with local organizations, event sponsors, and the Levitt Foundation, the weekly concert series is held outdoors in the summer at Fourth Street and Capitol Avenue. These family-friendly events showcase a variety of genres with national touring musicians and local openers.

Mayor's Awards for the Arts

In collaboration with the Mayor of Springfield, these awards are given to recognize artists, arts educators, arts organizations, businesses, and volunteers from Menard and Sangamon counties. Awards are based on nominations from the public. A commissioned artist designs the awards for this biennial program.

First Night Springfield

SAAC's signature event will celebrate its 37th year on December 31, 2024. Held in downtown Springfield on New Year's Eve, this annual celebration of the arts features over many and varied performers. Free activities and performances are held for children in the afternoon.

Poetry Out Loud

This program features high school students reciting memorized works by classic and contemporary poets and is presented in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, Poetry Foundation, and Illinois Arts Council Agency. SAAC has hosted the Central Illinois Regional contest and Illinois State contest for nineteen years.

Re-Granting Programs

City Arts

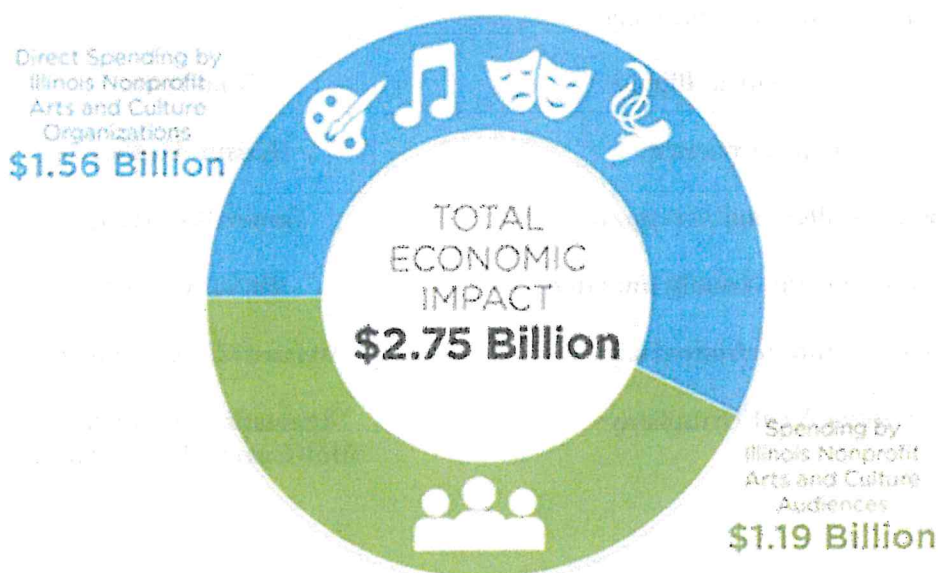
In cooperation with the City of Springfield, a panel of artists, city employees, and community members determine grant awards to artists whose projects bring the arts to the city.

Arts in Education

Public and private schools receive grants to fund visits by performing, literary, and visual artists.

Community Arts Access

With funding from the Illinois Arts Council Agency, project-based grants are awarded to local arts organizations with arts programming. A panel of artists and community members determine the recipients.



Source: Arts & Economic Development, The Regional Impact of Nonprofit Arts and Culture Organizations and Their Audiences in the State of Illinois. For more information about this study, visit the Arts Alliance Illinois website at www.artallianceillinois.org. Copyright 2013 by Arts Alliance for the Arts (www.artallianceillinois.org).



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SAAC's Impact in the Springfield Community

Re-Granting Programs

Through the **Community Arts Access Grant**, we provided **\$16,875** in funding in FY24 to 18 different organizations, including:

African American History Museum

Hoogland Center for the Arts

Big Brothers-Big Sisters

Scholastic Art Awards

Educational Center for the Visually Impaired

Springfield Park District

Copper Coin Ballet Company

University of Illinois Springfield Visual Arts Gallery

Camp Cilca

Illinois State Museum Society

Illinois Symphony Orchestra

Land of Lincoln Chorus

Liturgical Arts Festival

Menard County Singers

Senior Services of Central Illinois

Springfield International Folk Dancers

Springfield Youth Performance Group

Voices of Love, Joy and Peace

Through the **City Arts Grant**, we provided **\$9,000** in funding in Fiscal Year 19 to 14 different projects with individuals and organizations, including:

Senior Services of Central Illinois	Tom Irwin
Illinois Symphony Orchestra	Kristin Walker
The Pharmacy Gallery and Art Space	James Armstrong
Educational Center for the Visually Impaired	Jill A. Manning
James Weldon Johnson Study Guild	Menard County Singers
Sangamon Valley Youth Symphony	Scholastic Art Awards – Mid-Central Illinois Region

City Funding

\$50,000 Requested

\$20,000

City Arts Regranting Program

By doubling the funding from years past, we would be able to support larger projects by gifting applicants with higher grant awards than ever before and include more visual, performing, and literary artists to our grantees. Within Fiscal Years 20 – 23, we were unable to provide this programming due to a lack of funding from the City of Springfield.

\$6,000

First Night Springfield

Every year, Springfield Area Arts Council organizes a fireworks show as part of our New Year's Eve celebration for the community to enjoy. City funding helps us create an unforgettable evening.

\$7,000

Art After Hours

City funding will allow us to eliminate business registration fees and artist registration fees to remove potential financial barriers and increase participation from the wider community, making the program more accessible to our participants.

An increase to the budget further allows the Springfield Area Arts Council to pay the panel of judges who determine the 1st place winners of each business's exhibition and award an honorarium to the venue space who hosts the winners' exhibition and reception.

\$3,000

Artist on the Plaza

A growth in the program's budget will allow the Springfield Area Arts Council to increase the performance artist(s)'s honorarium to \$100, hire a local graphic artist to design new signage for the year's programming, cover liability insurance, music licensing fees, advertising, and pay for promotional printed materials. This is a sensory friendly and pet friendly program that is offered throughout the summer to the public for free.

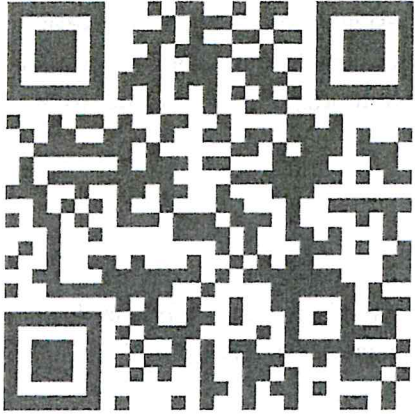
\$14,000

General Operating Support

Financial support to the Springfield Area Arts Council goes toward paying our employees and contracted hires who have helped organize these programs, and cover the expenses incurred for office rent, insurance, phone bill, employee parking, stationery, and postage.

Learn More

Arts Impact
Illinois Arts Council



Arts and Economic Prosperity 6
Americans for the Arts



Why the Arts Matter in Illinois
Americans for the Arts Action Fund



*The Arts and Culture Sector's Contributions to
Economic Recovery and Resiliency in the United States*
National Assembly of State Arts Agencies

